

ALDRIDGE
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



**ANNUAL
REPORT**

of

Public Health Conditions

of the

Aldridge Urban District

For the Year Ending 31st December, 1963

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by

H. SHORE, M.D., D.T.M. & H., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health

and

H. C. PERKINS, M.A.P.H.I.,
Chief Public Health Inspector



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STAFF:

Medical Officer of Health:

H. SHORE, M.D., D.T.M. & H., D.P.H.

Health Department, 52 Portland Road, Aldridge, Staffs.

(DR. V. E. MILNE, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
retired on 31st December, 1963).

Chief Public Health Inspector:

H. C. PERKINS, M.A.P.H.I.

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector:

K. B. WILLIAMS.

Additional Public Health Inspectors:

A. MERCER,
W. K. TOWNEND, M.A.P.H.I.

Pupil Public Health Inspector:

MISS M. ROBINSON.

Clerks:

MISS B. M. MOORE.

MISS J. WRIGHT

Rodent Operative/Handyman:

W. H. PLATT.

TO THE ALDRIDGE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour of presenting to you the Annual Report for the year 1963.

In the Aldridge Urban District in 1963 the adjusted Live Birth Rate was 16·98 per 1,000 population. This was 2·99 below that for 1962. It compares with 18·2 for England and Wales, which is the highest since 1947. The adjusted Death Rate was 10·38 per 1,000 population, which was 1·49 below that for 1962. This compares with 12·2 for England and Wales. The live births registered exceeded the death rate by 1,024.

The Infant Mortality Rate of 17·15 per 1,000 live births was 0·55 higher than that for 1962. It compares with 20·9 for England and Wales which is the lowest ever recorded in this country.

The estimated total population as at 30th June was 56,850 which was 2,370 greater than the estimate for 1962.

With regard to infectious diseases, an outbreak of bacillary dysentery (64 cases, 63 of which occurred at St. Margaret's Hospital for Mental Defectives, Great Barr). This type of Institution is frequently vulnerable in this respect. No cases occurred of poliomyelitis or food poisoning. And, although this was an epidemic year for measles (901 notifications against 392 in 1962) no deaths occurred.

The number of deaths from cancer (59) and heart disease (106) was below that for 1962, this improvement favouring the male sex. Generally speaking the sexes have during the past few years shared equally in respect of death from heart disease, with the exception of death from Coronary Thrombosis where male deaths exceeded female deaths nearly threefold (334 male deaths against 126 female deaths). During the same period more men died from coronary thrombosis (20·4 per cent.) than from cancer (16·2 per cent.) but more women died from cancer (19 per cent.) than from coronary thrombosis (10 per cent.) In both sexes deaths from heart disease and cancer accounted together for 51 per cent. of all deaths. The death rate from coronary thrombosis has almost doubled since 1954 (1·18 against 0·66 per 1,000 population). There have been 97 deaths from cancer of the lung during 1954-63, with the usual preponderance of males (88 males, 9 females). Eleven deaths occurred in 1963, none female.

The pattern of these diseases is shared by the whole country. Generally the state of the public health in Aldridge Urban District is very encouraging with an increasing population, a falling death rate and an infant mortality rate comparing favourably with that for

England and Wales. It is a young population (only 5·3 per cent. of the population is aged 65 and over compared with approximately 12 per cent. the national average).

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

H. SHORE,

Medical Officer of Health.

Area.

The area of the District is 9,284 acres.

Population

The estimated home population at mid-summer 1963 was 56,850 (an increase of 2,370 from the previous year). This gives a population density of 6·1 per acre.

Population, Corrected Live Birth Rate, Corrected Death Rate, Infant Mortality Rate 1954-1963.

		Population	Live Birth Rate	Death Rate	Infant Mortality Rate
1954	...	31,440	13.16	9.74	17.54
1955	...	33,100	14.71	10.36	30.88
1956	...	35,930	17.0	12.84	33.84
1957	...	39,100	18.07	9.99	16.75
1958	...	42,170	17.07	11.99	24.72
1959	...	45,230	19.04	10.49	19.40
1960	...	48,930	20.3	11.42	21.00
1961	...	51,680	21.07	11.97	19.17
1962	...	54,480	19.97	11.87	16.60
1963	...	56,850	16.98	10.38	17.15

Percentage of Elderly People aged 65 and above (1961 Census)

WARD	PERCENTAGE
Pheasey ...	1.5
Streetly ...	5.8
Gt. Barr ...	6.2
Pelsall ...	6.6
Rushall ...	7.5
Aldridge ...	5.7
Aldridge U.D.C.	5.3 (2.1 males, 3.2 females).

Inhabited Houses

The number of inhabited houses, according to rate books at 1.4.63 was 16,570, an increase of 1,005 from the previous year.

Rateable Value

The Rateable Value was £1,742,190 and the sum represented by a 1d. Rate was £7,334. The previous year, these were £563,059 and £2,450 respectively.

Social Conditions

The chief occupations of the populations are:—Brickmaking, mining, agricultural; heavy and light industries are now well established. The district is also largely residential.

VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births:

		Males	Females	Totals
Legitimate	...	682	636	1,318
Illegitimate	...	13	10	23
		—	—	—
		695	646	1,341
		—	—	—

The crude live birth rate per 1,000 of the population was 23.59 and the corrected live birth rate 16.98—the latter can be compared with the birth rate for the whole of England and Wales, which was 18.2 for 1963, the highest since 1947.

For 1962 the crude and corrected live birth rates for the district were 23.22 and 19.97 respectively.

The number of illegitimate live births was 1.7 per cent. of the total live births.

Still Birth Rate:

21 still births (males 8 and females 13) were registered, and the rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births was 15.66. The corresponding rate for the whole of England and Wales was 17.3. The still birth rate for 1962 was 20.13.

Death Rate: 317 deaths (males 166, females 151).

The crude death rate was 5.58 and the corrected death rate 10.38 per 1,000 of the population—the latter can be compared with the crude death rate for the whole of England and Wales, which was 12.2, 0.3 higher than for 1962.

Area Comparability Factors (A.C.F's)—used for calculating the corrected birth and death rates have been amended and are now 0.72 and 1.86 respectively as compared with 0.86 and 1.82. This means a lowering of the crude birth rate and an increase of the crude death rate, and takes into account the fact that as the district rapidly develops the number of residents in the younger age groups annually increases. In other words the A.C.F's make an approximate allowance for the way the sex and age distribution of the local population differs from that for England and Wales as a whole.

When so corrected, the birth and death rates are comparable with the crude rates for England and Wales, or with the corresponding corrected rates for any other area.

In addition, the death rate A.C.F. is now adjusted specifically to take account of any "residential institutions" in the area.

Infant Mortality Rate :

23 Infants under one year of age died, giving an Infant Mortality Rate of 17.15 per 1,000 live births. 16 infants under 4 weeks of age died, giving a neo-natal death rate of 11.93 per 1,000 live births.

The Infant Mortality Rate (all causes) for the whole of England and Wales was 20.9 per 1,000 live births, the lowest ever recorded in this country.

No illegitimate infant died under one year of age.

The early neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births was 8.2.

The peri-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live and still births was 23.5.

No death resulted from Pregnancy, Childbirth or Abortion.

Cancer :

59 deaths resulted from malignant neoplasms and included in these were 11 deaths due to cancer of the lung and/or bronchus.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES

The following services are provided by the Staffordshire County Council as the Local Health Authority:—

Ambulance Service.

Infant Welfare Centres.

Home Help Service.

Ante-Natal Clinics.

Diphtheria Immunisation (Private Practitioners, and at Infant Welfare Centres and School Clinics).

Laboratory Services—The Public Health Laboratory Service, Martin Street, Stafford (Tel: Stafford 4377)—Director: Dr. A. E. Wright (Directed by the Medical Research Council for the Ministry of Health).

Chemical Analysis—County Analyst—A. Houlbrooke, Esq., M.Sc., F.R.I.C., Chemical Laboratory, County Buildings, Stafford (Tel: Stafford 3121).

Hospitals—Those chiefly used are: The General, the Manor and St. John's Hospitals, Walsall: the Birmingham and Wolverhampton Hospitals and the Cannock and Lichfield Hospitals. Admissions are usually arranged by General Practitioners.

Maternity Accommodation—Hospitalization, on medical grounds, is arranged by the patient's Doctor, and for unsuitable home conditions, after investigation by the Health Visitor, by the Hospital Management Committee of the area in which the applicant resides.

Small Pox—Treatment and hospitalization are arranged for through the Regional Hospital Board.

Venereal Diseases—are, now-a-days, a moral and social problem rather than a medical one, as they can now be successfully cured by skilled treatment.

Venereal Clinics are held regularly at the Manor Hospital, Walsall, for diagnostic, consultative and curative purposes.

WATER

The Aldridge Urban District is within the statutory area of the South Staffordshire Waterworks Company, and Mr. R. H. Taylor, B.Sc., M.I.C.E., Engineer-in-Chief, has kindly let me have the following information for the year 1963:—

1. The water supply to the Urban District Council of Aldridge has been satisfactory in quality and quantity.
2. The supply is derived mainly from one pumping station (Bourne Vale) within and six pumping stations outside the Authority's boundaries. A proportion of water of surface origin is also supplied to parts of the district.

Regular and frequent samples, both bacteriological and chemical, are examined from the pumping stations. Bacteriological samples of the water prior to chlorination are also examined where possible.

During 1963, 51 samples from Bourne Vale Pumping Station were all satisfactory. 167 samples were examined from Barr Beacon Reservoirs, 165 of which were free from all forms of coliform bacteria, as were 12 samples from the Waterman's house in Aldridge.

The average chemical results for 1963 were:—

pH	...	...	...	...	7.2			
Alkalinity (CaCO ₃)	...	...	...	...	116	parts	per	million
Chlorides (Cl)	...	...	...	...	28.3	„	„	„
Ammoniacal Nitrogen (N)	...	...	...	...	.11	„	„	„
Albuminoid Nitrogen (N)	...	...	...	...	.051	„	„	„
Oxidised Nitrogen (N)	...	...	...	...	8.1	„	„	„
Oxygen Absorbed (3hr. @ 20°c.)	...	...	...	...	.54	„	„	„
Temporary Hardness	...	...	...	...	110	„	„	„
Permanent Hardness	...	...	...	...	141	„	„	„
Total Hardness	...	...	...	...	251	„	„	„
Total Solids	...	...	...	...	387	„	„	„
Iron (Fe)	...	...	...	...	.03	„	„	„
Manganese (Mn)	...	...	...	...	Nil			
Calcium (Ca)	...	...	...	...	86.1	„	„	„
Magnesium (Mg)	...	...	...	...	8.2	„	„	„
Sulphate (SO)	...	...	...	...	138.9	„	„	„
Zinc (Zn)	...	...	...	...	Nil			
Copper (Cu)	...	...	...	...	Nil			
Lead (Pb)	...	...	...	...	Nil			
Free Cl	...	...	...	...	.03	„	„	„

3. The waters are not liable to plumbo-solvency, all 12 samples from the Waterman's house being free from any measurable quantity of lead.
4. Chlorination is practised as a precautionary measure at most of the pumping stations. In cases of possible contamination in the event of burst or damaged mains, emptying reservoirs etc., emergency chlorination is performed. Special apparatus and staff are available for this work. New mains etc., are not brought into use until the water has been examined and proved satisfactory.
5. The number of houses with a piped water supply in the Urban District of Aldridge at 31st December, 1963 was 17,446 which includes 14 supplied by means of an outside stop tap.

There are still a few isolated wells in the less thickly populated parts of the district.

HOUSING

The number of houses erected during the year 1963: —

(a) By Local Authority	...	159
(b) By Other Authority	...	Nil
(c) By Private Enterprise	...	618

The number of houses in course of erection at the end of the year: —

(a) By Local Authority	...	124
(b) By Other Authority	...	Nil
(c) By Private Enterprise	...	346
TOTALS—Erected during 1963	...	777
In course of erection		470

Under the County Welfare Scheme Old Age Pensioners have been re-housed at “Queslade”, Queslett Road, Gt. Barr, as follows: —

12 One bedroom flats.

8 Bed-sitters.

6 Bungalow/Bedsitter units.

Six families were re-housed on medical grounds. No person was re-housed suffering from tuberculosis.

IMMUNISATION

This service is conducted by the County Authority, and the children are immunised by the County Medical Staff and General Practitioners.

I am grateful to Dr. Jamison, Area Medical Officer, for the following information in respect of immunisations, carried out in the Aldridge Urban District for the year ending 31st December, 1963.

Diphtheria Immunisation.						
		Born in				Total
		1963	1962	1961	1960	
(a)	No. of children who completed a full course of primary immunisation during 1963	200	591	81	12	942
(b)	No. of children who received a reinforcing injection in 1963 ...	—	53	97	14	419
Whooping Cough Immunisation.						
		Born in				Total
		1963	1962	1961	1960	
(a)	No. of children who received a primary course of pertussis vaccine (singly or in combination) during 1963	229	585	68	19	911
Small Pox Vaccination.						
Ages		Under 1				Total
		1	2—4	5—14	15 & over.	
Vaccination	...	141	121	35	51	364
Re-vaccination	...	—	1	16	93	114
Tetanus Inoculation						
Ages		0—4				Total
		5—14	40	105		
Initial	...	905				945
Reinforcing	...	154				259

POLIOMYELITIS VACCINATION

No figures are available for the Aldridge Urban District.

The following figures relate to the Area.

No. of persons in area who completed a primary course of vaccination at 31.12.63	...	...	55,872
Total number of boosters (3rd dose)	...	...	38,268
Total number of boosters (4th dose)	...	...	8,489
Estimated population of area (mid 1963)	...	...	144,980
Estimated population of Aldridge U.D. (mid 1963)			56,850

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS) DURING THE YEAR 1963

Disease							Total cases notified after correction
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	25
Enteric Fever—including Paratyphoid	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Meningococcal Infection	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Dysentery	...	...	...	...	...	...	64
Measles (excluding Rubella)	...	...	...	...	...	...	901
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	...	28
Ac. Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
(Non-Paralytic)	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Food Poisoning	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Acute Encephalitis (Infective)	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
(Post-Infectious)	...	...	...	...	...	...	—

**ANALYSIS OF THE NOTIFIED INFECTIOUS CASES
(AFTER CORRECTION) IN AGE GROUPS AND
WARDS IS GIVEN BELOW:—**

AGE GROUPS	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Acute Polio- myelitis		Measles	Diphtheria	Dysentery	Mening: Infection
			Para.	Non. Para.				
0—1 year ...	—	5	—	—	56	—	1	—
1—2 years ...	1	5	—	—	93	—	4	—
2—3 years ...	1	3	—	—	140	—	4	—
3—4 years ...	1	5	—	—	111	—	8	—
4—5 years ...	4	3	—	—	126	—	5	—
5—9 years ...	11	4	—	—	364	—	1	—
10—14 years ...	6	2	—	—	5	—	5	—
15—24 years ...	—	1	—	—	2	—	10	—
25+ ...	1	—	—	—	4	—	26	—
Unknown ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS ...	25	28	—	—	901	—	64	—
WARDS								
Aldridge ...	3	19	—	—	168	—	—	—
Great Barr ...	4	1	—	—	124	—	63	—
Pelsall ...	2	1	—	—	202	—	—	—
Pheasey ...	2	3	—	—	128	—	1	—
Rushall ...	8	4	—	—	137	—	—	—
Streetly ...	6	—	—	—	142	—	—	—
TOTALS ...	25	28	—	—	901	—	64	—

AGE GROUPS	Pneumonia	Erysipelas	Puerperal Pyrexia	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	Encephalitis	Food Poisoning
0—4 years ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—14 years ...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—44 years ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
45—64 years ...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 + ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS ...	5	2	—	—	—	—	—
WARDS							
Aldridge ...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Great Barr ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pelsall ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pheasey ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rushall ...	2	2	—	—	—	—	—
Streetly ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS ...	5	2	—	—	—	—	—

TUBERCULOSIS

Twenty-three cases of tuberculosis were entered on the Register, 19 Pulmonary and 4 Non-Pulmonary.

7 cases resided in Aldridge

4 ,, ,, ,, Great Barr

2 ,, ,, ,, Pelsall

1 ,, ,, ,, Pheasey

5 ,, ,, ,, Rushall

4 ,, ,, ,, Streetly

DYSENTERY

64 cases of dysentery were notified and investigated. (63 of these cases occurred in St. Margaret's Hospital, Great Barr).

FOOD POISONING

No case of food poisoning was notified.

MORTUARY

The Mortuary, at Anchor Road, Aldridge, continues to operate satisfactorily. The same part-time attendant is employed and the arrangements appear to be satisfactory. There has been full co-operation with the Police.

54 bodies were brought into the Mortuary and 45 post-mortem examinations were carried out.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES, 1954-63

	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963
Measles	32	911	24	903	273	624	38	1,423	392	901
Whooping Cough ...	76	123	47	89	46	35	55	7	3	28
Scarlet Fever ...	45	26	25	20	62	72	84	29	15	25
Pneumonia	18	24	18	33	17	29	8	3	7	5
Erysipelas	2	3	2	4	1	1	2	2	4	2
Meningococcal Infection	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	2	—	—
Poliomyelitis ...	3	—	—	3	1	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	4	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	1	2	—	2	2	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	1	1	1	—	—	—	2	1	1	—
Dysentery	4	4	24	3	7	5	2	—	13	64
Food Poisoning ...	4	—	8	3	—	—	—	1	—	—
Encephalitis ...	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

DEATHS FROM CANCER OF THE LUNG 1954-63

	Male	Female	Total
1954 ...	4	1	5
1955 ...	8	1	9
1956 ...	9	1	10
1957 ...	3	—	3
1958 ...	7	1	8
1959 ...	8	2	10
1960 ...	9	2	11
1961 ...	11	1	12
1962 ...	18	—	18
1963 ...	11	—	11
	—	—	—
	88	9	97
	—	—	—

DEATHS FROM CANCER 1954-63

		Male	Female	Total
1954	...	14	15	29
1955	...	24	18	42
1956	...	25	30	55
1957	...	11	19	30
1958	...	29	19	48
1959	...	30	23	53
1960	...	28	29	57
1961	...	36	34	70
1962	...	41	30	71
1963	...	28	31	59
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
		266	248	514
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total male deaths 1954-63		...	1,642	
Male cancer deaths 1954-63		...	16.2%	
Total female deaths 1954-63		...	1,248	
Female cancer deaths 1954-63		...	19.0%	
Cancer death rate for 1963		...	1.0 per 1,000 population	

DEATHS FROM CORONARY THROMBOSIS 1954-63

		Male	Female	Total
1954	...	14	7	21
1955	...	23	4	27
1956	...	31	7	38
1957	...	31	11	42
1958	...	37	12	49
1959	...	34	14	48
1960	...	37	10	47
1961	...	34	18	52
1962	...	56	17	73
1963	...	37	26	63
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
		334	126	460
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Coronary Thrombosis death rate 1954		...	0.66 per 1,000 population	
Coronary Thrombosis death rate 1963		...	1.18 per 1,000 population	

Male deaths from
 Coronary Thrombosis 1954-63 ... 20.4% of all male deaths

Female deaths from
 Coronary Thrombosis 1954-63 ... 10.0% of all female deaths

DEATHS FROM HEART DISEASE 1954-63

		Male	Female	Total
1954	...	36	36	72
1955	...	61	36	97
1956	...	63	30	93
1957	...	53	31	84
1958	...	60	38	98
1959	...	59	29	88
1960	...	61	39	100
1961	...	52	55	107
1962	...	73	48	121
1963	...	55	51	106
		-----	-----	-----
		573	393	966
		-----	-----	-----
Total male deaths 1954-63 1,642				
Male deaths from heart disease 1954-63 ... = 573 = 34.9%				
Total female deaths 1954-63 1,248				
Female deaths from heart disease 1954-63 ... = 393 = 31.5%				
Death Rate from Heart Disease in 1963 = 1.9 per 1,000 population				
Total deaths from cancer and heart disease in males 1954-63 = 839 = 51% of all male deaths				
Total deaths from cancer and heart disease in females 1954-63 = 641 = 51% of all female deaths				

TOTAL DEATHS

Causes of Death in the Aldridge U.D. (Year 1963).

CAUSES OF DEATH						Male	Female
ALL CAUSES	...	...	...	...	...	166	151
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
2. Tuberculosis, other	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
3. Syphilitic Disease	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
4. Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
5. Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
6. Meningococcal Infections	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
8. Measles	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
9. Other Infective Parasitic Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
10. Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	...	...	...	...	...	5	2
11. Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	...	...	...	...	...	11	—
12. Malignant Neoplasm, Brest	...	...	...	...	...	—	6
13. Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	...	...	...	...	...	—	2
14. Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	...	...	...	...	...	9	20
15. Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	...	...	...	...	...	3	1
16. Diabetes	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
17. Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	...	...	...	...	...	23	21
18. Coronary Diseases, Angina	...	...	...	...	...	37	26
19. Hypertension with Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	...	7	7
20. Other Heart Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	11	18
21. Other Circulatory Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	4	8
22. Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
23. Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	7	5
24. Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	11	5
25. Other Diseases of Respiratory System	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
26. Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
27. Gastritis, Enteritis, Diarrhoea	...	...	...	...	...	2	1
28. Nephritis and Nephrosis	...	...	...	...	...	3	1
29. Hyperplasia of Prostate	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
30. Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
31. Congenital Malformations	...	...	...	...	...	6	5
32. Other Defined and Ill-Defined Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	14	11
33. Motor Vehicle Accidents	...	...	...	...	...	2	1
34. All Other Accidents	...	...	...	...	...	4	6
35. Suicide	...	...	...	...	...	2	3
36. Homicide and Operations of War	...	...	...	...	...	—	—

DEATHS OF INFANTS

	MALES			FEMALES		
	TOTAL	Legit.	Illegit.	TOTAL	Legit.	Illegit.
Under 1 year of age	12	12	—	11	11	—
Under 4 weeks of age	6	6	—	10	10	—
Under 1 week of age	5	5	—	6	6	—

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

Part 1 of the Act.

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Particulars	Number on Register	NUMBER OF		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ...	2	1	Nil	Nil
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	117	105	14	Nil
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
TOTAL ...	119	106	14	Nil

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

Particulars	NUMBER OF CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7).					
(a) Insufficient ...	4	2	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	32	14	—	1	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	1	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) ...	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	37	16	—	1	—

Part VIII of the Act

Outwork

(SECTIONS 133 AND 134)

Nil.

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT, 1963

To the Chairman and Members of
Aldridge Urban District Council.

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in submitting this my sixth Annual Report on the work of the department during the year.

(a) **Meat**

All animals slaughtered at the two private slaughterhouses during the year have been inspected.

I am pleased to relate that this 100 per cent. standard of meat inspection was practised even before the coming into operation of the Food Hygiene, Meat Inspection Regulations 1963. One welcomes the regulations in as much as they lay down the set pattern and standards of inspection in a statutory manner, however, it is regretted that it has not been possible to regulate set hours and days for slaughtering purposes.

The condemnations over the year were very minor in character, and it is gratifying to note that the percentage of carcasses affected with cysticercosis was 0·4 per cent.

An annual inspection of slaughterhouses and lairages was carried out in conjunction with a Veterinary Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. This officer expressed his satisfaction with the manner in which the premises were maintained, and, accordingly, complimented the department on the high standard.

(b) **Slum Clearance**

Continued satisfactory progress has been maintained by diminishing the number of properties on the scheduled list of unfit dwelling houses.

A total number of 60 houses were demolished during the year. Nine Clearance Orders comprising 57 dwelling houses were submitted to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government; 6 individual Demolition Orders were made, and two "Certificates of Unfitness" given on unfit houses acquired by the Council.

The demolition of the remaining properties in New Street and Winterley Lane, Rushall (with the exception of 7, 9 and 11 New Street) allowed for the site of the former Aldridge (Winterley Lane, New Street, Lichfield Road, Rushall) Compulsory Purchase Order to be handed over to the Engineer and Surveyor's department for re-development purposes.

Again, I must comment that some considerable delay occurred in the execution of demolition work after the re-housing of the occupants, due in the main to the protracted valuation settlements being determined. This is most regrettable as void properties present an "eye sore", to say little of the damage caused by the inevitable vandalism.

(c) Food Hygiene and Food Inspection

The routine inspection of all food premises within the district has been continued during the year in an endeavour to maintain a high standard of food handling, preparation and storage of food on sale to the public. However, during the year it was necessary to institute legal proceedings against some manufacturers and retailers who sold food to the public not of the nature, substance or quality demanded. I have set out below further particulars of the proceedings taken. In all of these cases the food was pre-packed. This tendency for food to be pre-packed in ever increasing quantities is an admirable one as far as food hygiene is concerned, but it does have its difficulties. The major difficulty is in educating manufacturers and retailers that these commodities do not keep indefinitely. I think that some manufacturers, particularly in the meat trade are aware of this and have issued a pamphlet "Guidance on care in the storage and handling of meat pies" which has been circulated to most of the retailers in this area. I do feel, however, that more could be done by wholesalers and retailers alike to prevent the sale of stale food to the public.

The number of canned foods condemned as unfit for human consumption has doubled since last year. This is due to the fact that a wholesale food distributing company moved into the area half way through 1962. This year shows a full year's amount of unfit tinned food from this company.

Article	Condi- tion	Manufacturer	Retailer	Result of Case
Pork Pie	Mouldy	T. Wall & Son	Wrensons Stores Ltd., Aldridge.	Retailer fined £10. Costs £5 5s. 0d.
Pork Pie	Mouldy	G. Brazil & Co. Ltd.	E. Archer, The Elms Hotel, Aldridge.	Retailer fined £10. Costs £13 15s. 0d.
Steak and Kidney Pie	Mouldy	George Hipkins Ltd.	Denis Jones (Pelsall) Ltd. Pelsall.	Retailer fined £10. Costs £5 5s. 0d.
Cherry & Walnut Cake	Mouldy	William Price & Sons Ltd., Walsall.	William Price & Sons Ltd., Walsall.	Fine £10. Costs £5 5s. 0d.
(At the same hearing this firm was fined £2 for not having their name and address on the van, contrary to the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1960)				
Lollipop	Containing piece of sailcloth	Old Betty Plants Ltd., Stoke-on- Trent.	R. Bullock, Central Stores, Aldridge.	Manufacturer fined £5. Costs £5 5s. 0d.

HOUSING

1.—Inspection of dwelling houses during the year.

(1)	(a)	Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects under Public Health Acts or Housing Acts	...	...	...	...	...	110
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	...	...	...	...	1,707
(2)		Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	...	65
(3)		Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	...	45
(4)		Houses on which undertakings were given and completed	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
		Houses on which undertakings were given and have not been completed	...	...	...	...	...	Nil

2.—Remedy of Defects during the year without service of formal Notice.

Number of dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	26
---	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

3.—Action Under Statutory Powers during the year.

(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 12 of the Housing Act, 1957:—	
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ...	Nil
(2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:—	
(a) By Owners	Nil
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	Nil
(b) Proceedings under Public Health Act:—	
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	13
(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:—	
(a) By Owners	6
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	Nil
(c) Proceedings under Sections 17, 23 and 42 of the Housing Act, 1957:—	
(1) (a) Number of houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	6
(b) Number of Local Authority owned houses Certificates of unfitness issued	2
(2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	7
(3) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Clearance Orders	43
(4) Houses demolished on land acquired under Section 43(2) of the Housing Act, 1957 ...	3
(5) Local Authority owned houses certified by Medical Officer of Health demolished by informal action	Nil
(6) Local Authority owned houses (not unfit) demolished for re-development purposes ...	5
(7) Houses demolished informally by site developers	2

SITUATION OF PROPERTIES DEALT WITH AS SHOWN IN THE ABOVE TABLES

Individual Demolition Orders.

Individual Demolition Orders were made by the Council on the following houses:—

School Cottage occupied by Mr. Chilton, The Green, Aldridge.
School Cottage occupied by Mr. Bevan, The Green, Aldridge.
“Selwyn House”, 96 Lichfield Road, Pelsall.
“The Cottage”, Hobs Hole Lane, Aldridge.
“Rose Villa”, 95 Norton Road, Pelsall.
59 Erdington Road, Aldridge.

Certificates of Unfitness—Local Authority Acquired Property.

Certificates of Unfitness were issued on the following houses:—

37 Floyds Lane, Rushall.
39 Floyds Lane, Rushall.

Clearance Orders.

Clearance Orders were made by the Council on the following Houses:—

Aldridge (Lichfield Road, Pelsall) Clearance Order, No. 47.

140, 142, 144, 146, 148, 150, 152, 154, 156, 158, 160, 162,
164, 166, 168, 170, 172, 174, 176, 178, 180, 182, 184, 186,
188, 190, 192, Lichfield Road, Pelsall.

Aldridge (Norton Road, Pelsall) Clearance Order, No. 49.

169, 171, 173, and 175 Norton Road, Pelsall.

Aldridge (Raiswood Drive, Pelsall) Clearance Order No. 50.

14, 15, 16, and 17 Raiswood Drive, Pelsall.

Aldridge (Station Road, Pelsall) Clearance Order, No. 51.

10 and 11 Station Road, Pelsall.

Aldridge (Station Road, Pelsall) Clearance Order, No. 52.

19, 21 and 28 Station Road, Pelsall.

Aldridge (Erdington Road, Aldridge) Clearance Order, No. 53.

1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 Shrubby Cottages, Erdington Road,
Aldridge.

Aldridge (Hardwick Road, Streetly) Clearance Order, No. 54.

121, 123, 125 and 127 Hardwick Road, Streetly.

Aldridge (Bosty Lane, Aldridge) Clearance Order No. 55.

6 and 8 Bosty Lane, Aldridge.

Aldridge (Aldridge Road, Streetly) Clearance Order No. 56.

342, 344, 346, 348, 350 and 352 Aldridge Road, Streetly.

Houses Demolished.

Individual Demolition Orders: —

“The Laburnums”, 20 Knights Hill, Barr Common, Aldridge.

154 Allens Lane, Pelsall.

156 Allens Lane, Pelsall.

158 Allens Lane, Pelsall.

59 Erdington Road, Aldridge.

“Rose Villa”, 75 Norton Road, Pelsall.

6 Radley Road, Rushall.

Clearance and Compulsory Purchase Orders.

74, 76, 78, 80 and 82 Wood Lane, Pelsall.

21 and 22 (Pear Tree Farm) Fishley Lane, Pelsall.

39, 41, 45, 47, 49, 51, 55, 59, 61, 63, 65, 75, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 26, 28, 50, 52, 54, 56 New Street, Rushall.

2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 26, 28, 30 Winterley Lane, Rushall.

62 Lichfield Road, Pelsall (remaining part of Clearance Order No. 28).

Local Authority owned houses (not unfit) demolition for re-development purposes.

15, 17, and 19 High Street, Aldridge (shops and living accommodation).

“Radley House”, off Winterley Lane, Rushall.

12 Bakers Lane, Aldridge.

Houses demolished informally by Site Developers for re-development purposes.

27 Whetstone Lane, Aldridge.

“Heathfield House”, off Walsall Road, Heath End, Pelsall.

RENT ACT, 1957

Number of applications for Certificate of Disrepair	4
Number of Certificates Granted	1
Number of applications for Cancellations	Nil
Number of Undertakings given by Landlords and accepted by the Council	3

FOOD HYGIENE (GENERAL) REGULATIONS, 1960

Food Premises

Inspection and Supervision of:—

No. of Food Shops and Food Preparing Rooms Inspected ...	239
No. of Notices Served	33
No. of Contraventions Found	189
No. of Notices Completed	13
No. of Improvements	110
No. of Mobile Shops Inspected	6
No. of Public Houses Inspected	1
No. of Contraventions Found	51
Inspections made re Unsound Food	60

**Nature and Type of Improvements to Food Premises
during the year:—**

Articles and Equipment Provided	4
Cleanliness—Ceilings	2
Floors	4
Walls	3
Clothing Accommodation	3
Drainage	2
First-Aid Equipment	4
Hot Water	3
Improvements	2
Intervening Ventilated Space	1
Lighting	1
Personal Cleanliness Display Notices	1
Protection of Food	6
Redecoration and/or repair—Ceilings	3
Floors	4
Walls	1
Refuse bins	1
Sanitary Accommodation	1
Soap, Nailbrushes etc.	1
Wash Hand Basins	4

—
51
—

Details of Samples taken in Aldridge Urban District under the Food and Drugs Act 1955, during 1963.

The following records of samples of milk and other foods taken in the district have been supplied by the courtesy of Dr. G. Ramage, Medical Officer of Health, Staffordshire County Council.

Number of Samples taken	...	...	174
Number of Samples genuine	...	...	160
Number of Samples adulterated	...		14

Classification of General Foods

Almond Marzipan	Cherry Pie Filling
Apple Flakes	Corned Beef
Apricots in Heavy Syrup	Cream Cheese Spread
Buttered Tea Cakes	Chicken Capri
Barley Sugar	Cranberry Sauce
Baked Beans with Pork Sausage	Cocktail Sausages in Brine
Beef Sausage containing Pres. (2)	Coffee
British Sherry	Cheese Crisps
Blackberry Pie Filling	Creamed Fish Dinner
Beef Milano	Chicken Stock Cube
Beef Curry	Chocolate Cake Covering
Butter Cherry Madeira Cake	Chicken, Pork and Veal Sausage
Biscuits some sweet	Condensed Tomato Puree
Blackberries in Heavy Syrup	Dried Fruit Mixture (2)
Beef Hungaria	Dried Blue Peas
Blended Imported Honey	Dried Yeast
Blackcurrant Jam	Dressed Crab
Butter (4)	Essence of Anchovies
Braised Pork Kidney in Gravy	Fruit Salad in Syrup (2)
Brandy Flavour	Fig Roll Biscuits
Butter Beans	Fish Fingers
Bread Mix	Frozen Fish Fingers (3)
Buttered Scones	Fish Sticks
Bread and Butter	Frozen Fish Cakes
Chocolate Sponge Pudding Mix	French Mustard
Chocolate Sauce	Gin (6)
Cough Syrup	Ginger Marmalade
Chow Mein	Grapefruit Syrup
Chocolate Spread	Garden Peas (2)
Cochineal Colouring	Ground Almonds
Chopped Pork	Hamburger Steaks
Cod Roe	Instant Coffee (2)
Compound Fat	Ice Cream (2)
Creamed Horse Radish cont'g Real Cream	Julienne Soup
	Lard (3)
	Luncheon Meat

Lemon Puff Biscuits	Pork Pies
Lemon Squash	Pilchards in Tomato Sauce
Lemon Curd	Pickled Red Cabbage
Lime and Lemon Drink	Rice
Milk Shake Powder—	Raspberries in Syrup (2)
Strawberry Flavour	Raspberry Vinegar in Olive Oil
Mixed Fruit Jam	Ravioli with Tomato Sauce
Margarine 10% Butter	Red Salmon
Minced Beef and Gravy	Raspberry Flavour Spread
Minced Steak with Rich	Rum (2)
Gravy (3)	Sweet Sparkling Peardrax
Mushroom Ketchup	Strawberry Mousse
Marzipan (2)	Spanish Rice
Malted Milk	Sparkling Cider
Menthol Eucalyptus Sweets	Swiss Roll
Mixed Fruit	Stewed Steak with Rich
Nux Twin Bar	Gravy (2)
Orange Squash	Syrup Sponge Pudding
Orange Chocolate Biscuits	Sterilised Cream 23% Butter Fat
Olive Oil	Sugar Crystals
Pork Sausage containing	Sponge Drops, Filling contains
Preservative (5)	Butter
Peaches in Syrup	Steaklets, Frozen
Pancake Mixture	Self Raising Flour
Pickling Spice	Sodium Bicarbonate
Pickled Beetroot	Soft Jellies
Pate de Foie Truffle	Sparkling Orange Drink
Prunes in Syrup	Sterilised Cream
Pineapple Jam	Tea (5)
Potted Salmon	Tomato Ketchup
Potato Crisps	Tapioca Flakes
Prunes	Table Jelly
Pork and Beef Sausages	Tuna
containing Preservatives	Toffee Popcorn
Potted Beef	Victoria Plums in Syrup
Potato Sticks	White Pepper
Pork Dripping	Whisky (6)

Particulars of Adulterated Samples and Samples Below Standard

94 B/K “INFORMAL” MINCED STEAK WITH RICH GRAVY.	
7% deficient of meat.	Formal repeat sample genuine.
6 B/M “INFORMAL” FISH FINGERS.	
4.3% deficient of its proper proportion of fish and oil.	Formal repeat sample genuine.
22 B/M “INFORMAL” MARZIPAN.	
11.6% deficient of Almonds.	Formal repeat sample genuine.

- 25 B/M "FORMAL" MARZIPAN.
16.0% deficient of Almonds. Almond content increased.
- 23 B/M "INFORMAL" SPONGE DROPS.
FILLING CONTAINS BUTTER.
The filling fat contains only 25% Butter content to be increased.
instead of 50% of Butter.
- 27 B/M "INFORMAL" FROZEN FISH FINGERS.
2.9% deficient of fish. Investigations proceeding.
- 31 B/M "FORMAL" CHOPPED PORK.
13.9% deficient of meat. Satisfactorily resolved with
wholesalers.
- 36 B/M "FORMAL" STEAKLETS, FROZEN.
At least 10.6% deficient of meat. Investigations proceeding.
- 57 B/M "INFORMAL" DRIED FRUIT MIX.
Contains 0.8% of oil, which is Followed by formal sample.
in excess of 0.5% permitted.
- 101 B/N DRIED FRUIT MIX.
List of ingredients found to be Investigations proceeding.
incomplete, does not contain
Tincture of Mineral Oil and wax
found to be present.
- 23 B/O "INFORMAL" CHICKEN CAPRI.
Contains only 22.7% of meat Investigations proceeding.
and should not be sold implying
that it is a meat product.
- 24 B/O "INFORMAL" BEEF MILANO.
Contains only 23.0% of meat Investigations proceeding.
and should not be sold implying
that it is a meat product.
- 31 B/O "INFORMAL" BUTTER CHERRY MADEIRA CAKE.
The phrase "half the fat used is Labels amended.
butter" should be printed in type
not less than half the size of the
type used for the description
"Butter Cherry Madeira".
- 87 B/O "INFORMAL" RASPBERRY FLAVOUR SPREAD.
A prepacked food which requires Taken up with Food Manufacturers'
a list of ingredients. Federation by manufacturers of
this product.
- 90 B/O "INFORMAL" CHICKEN, PORK AND VEAL SAUSAGES.
Contains a cereal filler not incl- Production stopped two years ago.
uded in the list of ingredients. Explanation accepted,

UN SOUND FOODS

The following goods were inspected and found unfit for human consumption:—

BOVINE:					No.	Lbs.	Ozs.
Head and Tongue	...	...	...	...	1	25	—
Heart	...	...	...	...	1	6	—
Liver and Portions	...	...	...	...	18	376	—
Lungs and Portions	...	...	...	...	5	67	—
Lungs and Trachea	...	...	...	...	2	37	—
Peritoneum and Skirt	...	...	...	...	—	2	8
Trachea	...	...	...	...	—	1	—
Udder	...	...	...	...	1	5	—
PIG:							
Heart	...	...	...	...	2	1	12
Liver and Portions	...	...	...	...	2	6	—
Lungs and Portions	...	...	...	...	6	9	8
Lungs, Trachea and Heart	...	...	...	...	—	2	8
Lungs and Heart	...	...	...	...	2	9	—
Spleen	...	...	...	...	1	—	8
SHEEP:							
Heart	...	...	...	...	2	—	12
Liver and Portions	...	...	...	...	23	57	—
Lungs and Portions	...	...	...	...	232	32	4
Pluck	...	...	...	...	1	5	—
TINS:							
Apricots	...	...	...	...	3	2	13
Beef—Corned	...	...	...	...	18	49	12
Beef Savouries	...	...	...	...	22	20	10
Gammon	...	...	...	...	21	211	11
Ham—Chopped	...	...	...	...	3	12	—
Ham—Shoulder	...	...	...	...	18	188	9
Ham	...	...	...	...	13	161	10
Luncheon Meat	...	...	...	...	7	6	—
Mutton—Corned	...	...	...	...	15	91	—
Ox Tongue	...	...	...	...	3	18	—
Peaches	...	...	...	...	26	37	1
Pears	...	...	...	...	39	51	8
Peas	...	...	...	...	3	1	4
Pineapple	...	...	...	...	5	4	15½
Pork—Chopped	...	...	...	...	49	172	—
Pork Loin	...	...	...	...	13	119	5
Pork—Minced	...	...	...	...	1	4	—
Pork Shoulder	...	...	...	...	18	187	12
Pork Luncheon Meat	...	...	...	...	2	8	—
Salmon	...	...	...	...	4	1	11¼
Steak Casserole	...	...	...	...	9	10	6½
Tomatoes	...	...	...	...	517	305	14
					899½	2,309	10¼

MILK SAMPLES COLLECTED IN THE ALDRIDGE URBAN DISTRICT FOR BACTERIOLOGICAL AND BIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION DURING 1963.

Retail Milk Samples

Designated	No. Submitted	CLEANLINESS		PHOSPHATASE		TURBIDITY		Submitted Biological	Found to contain tubercle bacilli
		Satis.	Unsatis.	Pass	Fail	Pass	Fail		
Tuberculin Tested	14	* 11	1	—	—	—	—	†3	Nil
Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised)	112	*103	2	112	—	—	—	—	—
Pasteurised	65	* 58	2	65	—	—	—	—	—
Sterilised	69	—	—	—	—	69	—	—	—
TOTALS	260	172	5	177	—	69	—	3	Nil

† Two of the three samples submitted to the biological test were included in the number submitted to the cleanliness test.

* Tuberculin Tested 2
Tuberculin Tested Pasteurised ... 7
Pasteurised 5
} Samples void owing to high atmospheric shade temperature.

Informal Food and Drugs Samples

Tuberculin Tested	...	2 (Channel Island)
Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised)	...	14 (including 4 Channel Island)
Pasteurised	...	13 (including 2 Channel Island)
Sterilised	...	9

TOTAL	38	All satisfactory
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CARCASSES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED IN WHOLE OR PART

	Cattle exclud- ing cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	206	19	—	1,023	145
Number inspected	206	19	—	1,023	145
<u>ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBER- CULOSIS AND CYSTICERCI:</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	48	9	—	59	13
Percentage of the number inspected affected with diseases other than tuberculosis and cysticerci ...	23.30%	47.3%	—	5.76%	22.41%
<u>TUBERCULOSIS ONLY:</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis ...	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
<u>CYSTICERCOSIS:</u>					
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	1	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	1	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with cysticercosis ...	0.4%	0.0%	—	—	—

CLEAN AIR ACT, 1956

Industrial.

It is disappointing for me to report that the fume extraction plant, installed with so much promise by a large firm of brass extruders, did not progress as expected.

Many set-backs and problems, each involving great expense were met in the installation of this plant. Some were solved by new methods and adaptation. Others still remained unsolved at the end of the year. In consequence, pollution from this source continues.

However, it is gratifying to note that the management of this firm are more than aware of their responsibilities. They are anxious to solve this problem and in so doing to leave no stone unturned in their efforts. With this attitude and outlook, it may not be too far in the future when a solution will be found.

With one Brick Manufacturing Company turning to oil for its heating medium and another introducing coke in part of the heat processing, there has been some appreciable reduction in smoke from the blue brick industry.

Unfortunately, in the main this part of industry still remains a problem and it is hoped that more research will be directed to the prevention of smoke in the world of blue brick manufacturing.

The Department is following with close attention and interest the development of secondary combustion chambers which are being constructed by one firm. These chambers will allow for the burning of smoke evolved in the process of manufacture of a "blue brick".

All complaints regarding smoke from the brick and brass extrusion industries were referred to the Alkali Works Inspector for his attention.

Smoke Control Areas.

Some progress has been made in the control of domestic smoke pollution.

The second stage of the Local Authority's programme concerning the Pheasey and Park Farm area came into operation on the 1st July, 1963 and proved to be a complete success. This was due largely to the ready co-operation of the residents of this area to conform with the idea of "smokeless air". It was also attributed to the excellent public relations established by the Health Department staff in visiting and talking to householders and in promoting an exhibition which demonstrated the many aspects of smoke control, coupled with the benefits of better home heating.

There are now 17 Smoke Control Areas operative with the Urban District, covering 750 acres and embracing approximately 7,000 properties.

On the 17th December, 1963, the Ministry of Housing and Local Government issued a White Paper re-assessing Smoke Control Legislation according to the present and future availability of solid smokeless fuels, particularly gas coke, in view of the rapid technological changes in the gas industry affecting the future production of gas coke. This new legislation makes available to residents in future smoke control areas the benefits of a much larger grant for improved home heating from smokeless fuels other than gas coke. Unfortunately, these new benefits will mean a rate burden, much too great for many local authorities, consequently smoke control programmes in many areas will be adversely affected.

Inspections, Investigations and Visits—Clean Air Act, 1956.

Atmospheric Pollution Investigations and Visits	...	...	21
Combustion Plant Inspections	...	...	12
Smoke Control Inspections and Visits	...	...	2,578
Notices of Intention to Install New Furnace Plant	...	8	

COMPLAINTS

Complaints received at the Health Department and dealt with:—

Drainage, House Defects, Nuisances	...	...	213
Defective Dustbins	...	...	1,073
Rats and Mice Infestation	...	...	219
			1,505

NOTICES DEALT WITH DURING THE YEAR

	Notices Served	Notices Completed	Other Notices Superceded or Rescinded
Informal	326	262	10
Statutory	414	326	5
	740	588	15

VISITS MADE — PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTIONS

Accumulations	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	31
Aged Persons	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Animals and Pet Animals Act	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Atmospheric Pollution	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	21
Brook Course Pollution	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Combustion Plant	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Control of Caravan Sites	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	89
Dirty Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	33
Drainage	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	269
Dustbins	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,515
Factories	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	118
Factory Canteens	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	19
Food Hygiene	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	244
Housing—Public Health Act—	Informal Repairs		...	...	...	...	...	102
			Statutory Repairs	...	...	...	...	37
Housing Act—	Informal Repairs		...	...	...	...	...	759
			Statutory Repairs	...	...	...	...	5
Demolition—	Informal		...	...	...	...	...	75
			Statutory	...	...	...	...	73
Clearance Areas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	656
Rent Act	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Certificate of Disrepair	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Houses Let in Lodgings	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Housing Improvements	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	63
Infectious Disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	79
Insects	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	23
Meat Inspection	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	187
Mines and Quarries Act	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	101
Noise Nuisance	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	25
Outworkers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Pail Closets	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Rats and Mice (by Public Health Inspectors)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	38
Refuse Collection—House	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	39
Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Smoke Control Areas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,578
Theatre Licences and Cinema Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Trade Refuse	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	58
Tipping	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
Unsound Food	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	60
Verminous Persons and Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Water Samples	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Water Supply	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
								7,405

NATURE AND NUMBER OF STRUCTURAL DEFECTS DEALT WITH IN HOUSES:

Together with Nuisances and Other Matters.

House Defects:

External—

Chimneys	...	...	...	...	...	9
Roofs	...	...	...	...	...	8
Walls	...	...	...	...	...	7

Internal—

Ceilings, plaster	...	...	...	...	3
Dampness, rising	...	...	...	...	2
Doors	...	...	...	...	3
Fireplaces	...	...	...	...	1
Floors	...	...	...	...	2
Sinks	...	...	...	...	1
Staircase	...	...	...	...	2
Walls, plaster	...	...	...	...	2
Windows, defective	...	...	...	...	7
Windows, sashcords	...	...	...	...	2

Closet Accommodation Defects:

Water closet cistern	...	...	...	...	4
Water closet compartment	...	...	...	...	2
Water closet pedestal	...	...	...	...	5

Drainage:

Defects	...	...	...	...	...	18
Downspouts	...	...	...	...	...	4
Eavesgutters	...	...	...	...	...	6
Sink Waste	...	...	...	...	...	2

Miscellaneous:

Demolition	1
Pail Closets and Latrines	1
Refuse, house	3
Water Service	1

—
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—

SANITARY INSPECTION—PAIL CLOSETS

The number of pail closets remaining in the district has been reduced to 24. It is anticipated that this figure will decrease further due to the demolition of unfit properties at present served with this outmoded type of sanitary accommodation.

THEATRES ACT, 1843 CINEMATOGGRAPH ACTS, 1903—1952

Number of applications for the performance of stage plays received and granted	...	...	...	4
Annual Inspection of Cinemas:—				
1. Beacon Cinema, Great Barr	...	...	...	1
2. Avion Cinema, Aldridge	...	...	...	1

The inspection of the above-mentioned schools and cinemas were carried out in conjunction with the Staffordshire County Council Fire Brigade Fire Precautions Officers, whose co-operation is greatly appreciated.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

Applications received and granted for a Licence to keep a Pet Shop	1
--	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

SAMPLING OF WATER SUPPLIES

Samples of drinking water submitted for chemical analyses and bacteriological examinations were taken from the following premise:—

“The Dingle”, Mill Lane, Mill Green, Aldridge—Well water.

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION WORK

Premises Inspected

(To confirm infestation or otherwise)

	Totals Inspected	Found Infested	Found Non-Infested
Dwelling Houses (including Council Houses)	145	143	2
Business Premises	33	32	1
Council Premises	9	9	—
	187	184	2

VISITS TO CARRY OUT TREATMENT OF INFESTED PREMISES

Dwelling Houses (including Council Houses)	...	...	1,242
Business Premises	...	...	461
Council Premises	...	...	185
			<hr/>
			1,888
			<hr/>

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936 SECTION 75(1)

Number of Section 75(1) Notices Served	...	...	395
Number of Informal Notices served	...	...	19
Dustbins supplied by Council, informally on request	...		201
Dustbins supplied by Council on request after service of Statutory Notice	...	...	68
Dustbins supplied by Council in default of Statutory Notice			14
Dustbins supplied to Council properties	...	...	236
Dustbins supplied by occupiers and/or owners voluntarily after service of Statutory Notice	...	...	268
			<hr/>
			1201
			<hr/>

PUBLIC CLEANSING

(This section of the Report relates to the year commencing
1st April, 1963, and terminating 31st March, 1964).

This is the second year that this important service has been operated by the Health Department and I set out below my report for the past year.

There has been no major change in the method of operation and no large items of plant or equipment have been purchased during the year.

Regretfully, I must report that the proposed new depot progressed no further during the year. The existing depot is grossly overcrowded and the servicing facilities for the vehicles are very crude indeed. It is hoped that this situation will be corrected in the not too distant future, particularly when expensive vehicles have to be left out in the open at the mercy of the weather.

Refuse Collection.

The aim of a weekly collection of refuse has again been maintained throughout the year. It was noticed as the year progressed that there was a steady increase in the volume of refuse collected. This applied particularly in the "Pheasey" area where a smoke control area covering two large estates came into operation on 1st July, 1963.

The problem of trade refuse, particularly in blocks of offices and shops was tackled during the year by extending the use of $1\frac{1}{4}$ cubic yard containers.

Refuse Disposal.

Tipping, using careful control methods is the only method of disposal being used at present, this being carried out at the Wood Lane Tip, Pelsall. I am, however, concerned at the rate at which the tip is being filled and, as substantial capital outlay is involved in purchasing land suitable for tipping, I feel that an alternative method of disposal should be given serious thought. The method offering a reasonable solution is incineration. The factors that influenced my thinking along these lines are: —

1. At the present speed of in-filling, the existing tip will last for approximately 8 years.
2. The tip offers at the moment, by excavation, adequate top soil covering for the tipped refuse, but as the height of the tip increases, I will be dependant on outside sources for covering material and I deplore the fact that I may be forced to leave tipped refuse uncovered. Should this occur, there is every possibility of public health nuisances occurring, apart from the whole area looking blighted.
3. Pressure is being brought continually upon the Department by factory and office management and shopkeepers to remove their trade refuse (although a partial trade refuse scheme is in operation this applies mainly to food shops in the area). If the tip opened for the use of all trade premises in the area, this again would reduce the life of the tip.
4. There is not a guaranteed market at present for new schemes to salvage waste paper.
5. The residue from an incineration plant is completely inert and could be tipped crude, thus giving the present tip, which would be used for the disposal of the end product, a greatly increased life.

APPENDIX

Staff.

Cleansing Inspector	1
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Male Employees.

Refuse Collection	33
Refuse Disposal	1

Vehicles.

Registration No.	Vehicle	Year
TRE 505	S & D Freighter (side loader)	1950
151 ARF	S & D Fore and Aft Tipper	1953
705 FRE	S & D Fore and Aft Tipper	1955
794 VRF	S & D Fore and Aft Tipper	1958
6201 RF	S & D Fore and Aft Tipper	1960
379 CBF	S & D Pakamatic	1962
245 KBF	S & D Pakamatic	1963
SBF 798	Bristol PD 48 Europa Tractor	1961

COST STATEMENT TO THE 31st MARCH, 1964 COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF HOUSE AND TRADE REFUSE

Particulars	Collection £	Disposal £	Total £
REVENUE ACCOUNT.			
Gross Expenditure—			
Labour	19,661	415	20,076
Transport	12,034	1,872	13,906
Plant, equipment, land and buildings	—	—	—
Other items	1,154	572	1,726
Total	32,849	2,859	35,708
Gross Income	822	—	822
Nett Cost	32,027	2,859	34,886

UNIT COST—

	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Gross cost per ton—labour only ...	21 2	5	21 7
Gross cost per ton—transport only ...	12 11	2 0	14 11
Net cost per ton	34 5	3 1	37 6
	£	£	£
Net cost per 1,000 population ...	564	50	614
Net cost per 1,000 premises ...	1,727	154	1,881

OPERATIONAL STATISTICS

Area	...	...	...	...	...	9,284 acres
Population at 30th June, 1963	...					56,850
Total refuse collected—estimated	...					18,606 tons
Weight per 1,000 population per day						18 cwts.
Number of premises	...	...	...			18,550
Average haul	...	...	...	...		5.5 miles
Frequency of collection	...	...				Weekly
Total refuse disposed of	...	...				18,606 tons
Method of disposal—controlled tipping						100%
Rateable value	...	...	...			£1,742,190
Product of 1d. rate	...	...	...			£7,334
Rate in £ (Collection and disposal)	...					2.472d.

May I take this opportunity to express my grateful thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their help and support in the many projects and problems that I have had the honour to present. I would also like to say thank you to the Clerk of the Council, Engineer and Surveyor, Treasurer, Housing Manager, Parks Superintendent, Chief Fire Officer, Staffordshire County Council Fire Brigade and members of their respective staffs for all the help and co-operation I have received from them.

I would particularly like to thank Dr. V. E. Milne, Medical Officer of Health for the valuable assistance and co-operation received and for discussions on the many complex problems that have had to be dealt with during the year.

Lastly, I would like to pay tribute to the staff for their patient, courteous and helpful outlook and co-operation in the conduct of their duties.

Your obedient Servant,

H. C. PERKINS,

Chief Public Health Inspector.

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